

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A disc cartridge which can rotatably contain  
and permits draw out of an optical disc having  
a recording surface, and can be inserted into a  
5 recording/playing unit from a predetermined direction  
with the recording medium inserted, comprising:  
a main wall which is formed opposite to the  
recording surface of an optical disc;  
a side wall which extends from the circumference  
10 of the main wall, and covers at least a part of the  
circumference of the optical disc;  
a disc drop prevention member which extends from  
the side wall to be parallel with the main wall just  
like surrounding the optical disc; and  
15 a handling projection area which extends parallel  
to the main wall from the side wall opposite to the  
predetermined direction when inserting into the  
recording/playing unit.
2. A disc cartridge according to claim 1, wherein  
20 the main wall has a window for an optical pickup head  
and a spindle motor.
3. A disc cartridge according to claim 1, wherein  
more than one disc drop prevention member is provided.
4. A disc cartridge according to claim 1, wherein  
25 a clearance part to define the operating direction of a  
molding machine, is provided in the area of the main  
wall opposite to the disc drop prevention member and

the handling projection area.

5. A disc cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the main wall, the disc drop prevention member and the handling projection area are molded at the same time.

5           6. A disc cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the main wall, the disc drop prevention member, the handling projection area and the clearance part are molded at the same time.

7. A disc cartridge according to claim 1, wherein  
10 the disc drop prevention member can be temporarily deformed when the optical disc is inserted or draw out.

8. A disc cartridge according to claim 1, further comprising a preventive or coating to prevent undesired damage to the optical disc, provided in the side of the  
15 disc drop prevention member and the handling projection area, facing the optical disc.

9. A disc cartridge according to claim 8, wherein a clearance part to define the operating direction of a molding machine is provided in the area of the main  
20 wall opposite to the disc drop prevention member and the handling projection area.

10. A disc cartridge according to claim 8, wherein the main wall, the disc drop prevention member and the handling projection area are molded at the same time.

25           11. A disc cartridge according to claim 8, wherein the main wall, the disc drop prevention member, the handling projection area and the clearance part are

molded at the same time.

12. A disc cartridge which can rotatably contain  
and permits draw out of a disc-like recording  
medium having a recording surface, and can be inserted  
5 into a recording/playing unit from a predetermined  
direction with the recording medium inserted,  
comprising:

a main wall which is formed opposite to the  
recording surface of an optical disc;

10 an opening which is provided in a predetermined  
location of the main wall;

a side wall which extends from the circumference  
of the main wall, and covers at least a part of the  
circumference of the optical disc;

15 at least one recording medium drop prevention  
member, which extends from the side wall to be parallel  
with the main wall just like surrounding the optical  
disc; and

at least one cartridge holding projection area,  
20 which can prevent contact with the recording surface  
of the recording medium, when inserting into the  
recording/playing unit.

13. A disc cartridge according to claim 12,  
wherein at least two notches are provided in the side  
25 wall in the almost orthogonal direction, and at least  
one notch is directed to the direction almost equal to  
the length direction of the opening.

14. A disc cartridge according to claim 12,  
wherein the cartridge holding projection area is  
provided opposite to the notches on the side wall  
reverse to the direction in which the notches are  
5 provided, taking a predetermined position of the  
opening as a point of symmetry.

15. A disc cartridge comprising:

a flat part which includes an opening to expose  
the recording surface of a recording medium to be  
10 contained, and occupies a main area;

a side wall which is formed in one body with the  
flat part in the circumference of the flat part, and  
contains the recording medium in the hollow space  
defined by the flat part;

15 a notch which is provided in a part of the side  
wall in one body with the flat part; and

at least two projection members in the side wall  
and almost parallel to the flat part, which can prevent  
the recording medium from going out of the hollow space  
20 and contacting the recording surface of the recording  
medium, with the recording medium contained in the  
hollow space.